

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-44. (Canceled)

45. (New) A process for preparing a solid phospholipid blend comprising two or more phospholipids:

(a) providing a non-aqueous solution consisting essentially of said two or more phospholipids and a first non-aqueous solvent system consisting of one or more non-aqueous solvents, wherein said phospholipids are present in said non-aqueous solution at a predetermined relative ratio;

(b) concentrating the solution into a thick gel;

(c) contacting the thick gel with a second non-aqueous solvent that causes said phospholipids to precipitate as a solid phospholipid blend; and

(d) collecting said solid phospholipid blend,

wherein the relative ratio of phospholipids in said solid phospholipid blend corresponds to said predetermined relative ratio in the non-aqueous solution of step (a).

46. (New) A process according to Claim 45, wherein step (c) is performed at a temperature of from about 15 to about 30°C.

47. (New) A process according to Claim 45, wherein in step (a), the phospholipids are:

(i) 1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidylcholine;

(ii) 1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidic acid, monosodium salt; and

(iii) *n*-(methoxypolyethylene glycol 5000 carbamoyl)-1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidylethanolamine, monosodium salt.

48. (New) A process according to Claim 45, wherein said first non-aqueous solvent system consists of a mixture of methanol and toluene.

49. (New) A process according to Claim 45, wherein said second non-aqueous solvent is methyl t-butyl ether.

50. (New) A process according to Claim 45, wherein the solution of step (a) is warmed to a temperature of from about 25 to about 75°C.

51. (New) A process according to Claim 45, further comprising washing said blend of solid phospholipids with methyl t-butyl ether.

52. (New) A process according to Claim 45, further comprising drying the blend of solid phospholipids *in vacuo*.

53. (New) A process for preparing a suspension comprising two or more phospholipids, said process comprising:

(1) providing a solid phospholipid blend prepared according to the process of Claim 1;

(2) dissolving said solid phospholipid blend in a non-aqueous polyol solvent to provide a dispersed phospholipid blend solution;

(3) without removing said polyol solvent, contacting said dispersed phospholipid blend solution with an aqueous solution to form a phospholipid suspension.

54. (New) A process according to Claim 53, wherein said polyol solvent is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, ethylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol 300.

55. (New) A process according to Claim 54, wherein said polyol solvent is propylene glycol.

56. (New) A process according to Claim 53, wherein said step (2) is performed at a temperature of from about 30°C to about 70°C.

57. (New) A process according to Claim 56, wherein said step (2) is performed at a temperature of from about 50°C to about 55°C.

58. (New) A process according to Claim 53, wherein the ratio of solid phospholipid blend to polyol solvent is from about 5 mg of solid phospholipid blend per mL of polyol solvent to about 15 mg of solid phospholipid blend per mL of polyol solvent.

59. (New) A process according to Claim 58, wherein the ratio of solid phospholipid blend to polyol solvent is about 10 mg of solid phospholipid blend per mL of polyol solvent.

60. (New) A process according to Claim 53, wherein said aqueous solution is selected from the group consisting of water, saline, a mixture of saline and glycerin, and a saline, glycerin, and polyol solvent mixture.

61. (New) A process according to Claim 60, wherein said aqueous solution is a mixture of saline and glycerin.

62. (New) A process according to Claim 60, wherein said aqueous solution is a mixture of saline, glycerin, and propylene glycol.

63. (New) A process according to Claim 62, wherein said phospholipid suspension comprises 6.8 mg/mL of sodium chloride, 0.1 mL/mL of glycerin, 0.1 mL/mL of propylene glycol, and about 0.75 to 1.0 mg/mL of said solid phospholipid blend.

64. (New) A process according to Claim 63, containing about 0.75 mg/mL of said solid phospholipid blend.

65. (New) A process according to Claim 63, containing about 1.0 mg/mL of said solid phospholipid blend.

66. (New) A process according to Claim 53, wherein the phospholipids are:
- (i) 1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidylcholine;
 - (ii) 1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidic acid, monosodium salt; and

(iii) *n*-(methoxypolyethylene glycol 5000 carbamoyl)-1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidylethanolamine, monosodium salt.

67. (New) A process according to Claim 63, wherein the phospholipids are:
(i) 1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidylcholine;
(ii) 1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidic acid, monosodium salt; and
(iii) *n*-(methoxypolyethylene glycol 5000 carbamoyl)-1,2-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphatidylethanolamine, monosodium salt.

68. (New) A process according to Claim 53, wherein said phospholipid suspension contains phospholipid particles which are less than 100 nm in diameter.

69. (New) A process according to Claim 68, wherein said phospholipid suspension contains phospholipid particles which are less than 50 nm in diameter.

70. (New) A process according to Claim 69, wherein said phospholipids suspension contains phospholipid particles which are less than 50 nm in diameter.

71. (New) A process according to Claim 53, further comprising heating said aqueous solution to a temperature of from about 45°C to about 60°C prior to contacting said aqueous solution with said dispersed phospholipid blend solution.

72. (New) A process according to Claim 71, wherein said aqueous solution is heated to a temperature of from about 50°C to about 55°C prior to contacting said aqueous solution with said dispersed phospholipid blend solution.

73. (New) A process according to Claim 53, further comprising the step of:
(4) heating said phospholipid suspension to a temperature about equal to or above the highest gel to liquid crystalline phase transition temperature of the phospholipids present in said suspension.

74. (New) A process according to Claim 73, wherein in step (4) said phospholipid suspension is heated to a temperature of at least about 67°C.

75. (New) A process according to Claim 73, further comprising the step of:

(5) filtering said phospholipid suspension through a sterilizing filter.

76. (New) A process according to Claim 75, wherein said filtering is performed using two sterilizing filter cartridges.

77. (New) A process according to Claim 76, wherein said sterilizing filter cartridges are at a temperature of from about 70°C to about 80°C.

78. (New) A process according to Claim 76, wherein said sterilizing filter cartridges are 0.2 µm sterilizing filter cartridges.

79. (New) A process according to Claim 75, further comprising the step of:

(6) dispensing the filtered solution from step (5) into a vial.

80. (New) A process according to Claim 79, wherein said vial comprises a headspace containing a first gas, and further comprising the step of:

(7) exchanging the first gas in said headspace with a perfluorocarbon gas.

81. (New) A process according to Claim 80, wherein said perfluorocarbon gas is perfluoropropane.

82. (New) A process according to Claim 81, wherein said exchanging of gas is performed using a lyophilizing chamber.

83. (New) A process according to Claim 82, further comprising the step of:

(8) sterilizing said vial.

84. (New) A process according to Claim 83, wherein said vial is sterilized at about 126°C to about 130°C for 1 to 10 minutes.

85. (New) A phospholipid suspension prepared by the process of any one of Claims 53 to 84.

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86. (New) A vial containing a phospholipid suspension and a headspace comprising a perfluorocarbon gas, prepared by the process of any one of Claims 80 to 84.